

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN



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MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN
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AGRICULTURAL.

The managers should be cleaned carefully to prevent accumulation of bad and fermented material, refuse of ensilage, and the like.

Pork takes less from the farm than does beef. The fat pig contains only three fourths as much mineral matter and only one-fifth as much nitrogen per one hundred pounds as the steer.

SOME breeding ewes are good up to fourteen years old, but these are exceptions. Ewes may generally be as well disposed of at six to eight years of age. After their teeth get scanty they are of little use.

Good seeds are important but ill-luck is often the fault of the planter rather than the seedman. The best seeds cannot sprout if planted too early or too deep or if the soil is allowed to harden over them so that the young shoot cannot break through the crust.

If one must be poor how much better to be poor in the country than in the city. If wealth in the city is sometimes to be envied, the poverty in the city slums is correspondingly to be pitied. In the country the poor are never compelled to herd together like cattle, and if willing to work can always find something to do. In the city some people who want work at times are absolutely unable to find employment at any price. Let us count up a few of the advantages of the country. Fresh air, sunshine everywhere, no overcrowding, work at living wages, enough to eat, opportunities to develop character, self respect, health and independence. In the country there is less snobbery and class distinction. One man is about as good as another.

TUBERCULOSIS is again becoming prominent in the Massachusetts legislature. The new bill as passed down by the committee on agriculture appropriates \$65,000 for the campaign. The bill gives the cattle commission power to have animals killed without payment except for cost of killing and burying. If the examination shows the animal to have been killed by mistake and not to have been diseased the owner is to be paid up to a \$60 limit provided the animal was owned in the state for six months, and provided that the owner has not contributed to the spread of tuberculosis by wilful neglect, which latter clause means, it is presumed, provided he has carried out the instructions of the commission, when his cattle have been condemned before. This bill is extremely severe upon cattle owners, and it hardly seems possible that it can be passed. It apparently means that cattle having ever so slight a trace of tuberculosis, which might have never developed to any dangerous extent, and from which the animal might have recovered, are to be condemned and destroyed without payment. A bill like this ought to be voted down without ceremony.

Care of Lawns.

A well-kept lawn is a source of great satisfaction to its owner, but unless it receives constant attention it will often prove anything but ornamental. Since the introduction of the lawn mower, the appearance of our lawns about residences in the vicinity of large cities has become a subject of general remark among European travellers, who frequently speak of them in warm terms of praise; while Americans, who have visited England, are equally warm in their praise when referring to the deep, green, soft, velvety appearance of the English lawn, and wondering why it is that we cannot have the same. The dry climate of America requires a deeper and richer soil than that of England to maintain a continued green through the heat of summer, yet by preparing and taking care of the ground properly, and keeping the grass cut often, it will grow thick and form a dense velvety turf or carpet.

PREPARATION OF SOIL.

In preparing the land for a lawn, the soil should have mixed with it by ploughing, a quantity of peat which has been previously composted and fermented with soda ash to neutralize its acid properties, and is then well decomposed; then level the land carefully and see that it is perfectly smooth. The main reason for using peat is that it will retain moisture even in time of extreme drought, and the lawn will not require watering so frequently as when no peat has been used.

MANURING THE LAWN.

Do not cover the lawn all over with stable manure which is to remain there all winter as an offence to the eye, the nostrils and the feet. There is nothing more disgusting than this turning a lawn into a barnyard, and there is no necessity for it. As to the properties that a manure for lawns should possess, they are that they should contain a considerable proportion of nitrogen and phosphoric acid in such a proportion that the leguminous plants are not encouraged to become too luxuriant, and a good proportion of immediately available alkali. These qualities are most favorable to a vigorous, thick growth, without giving a tendency to run up too much, at the same time they impart a deep, rich green color to the grass, and these important points are obtained by the use of a soluble, odorless, chemical fertilizer, containing six per cent. nitrogen, twenty-eight per cent. alkali, thirteen per cent. phosphoric acid—using 440 pounds for an acre, costing about nine dollars. It is to be applied broadcast at the rate of one pound to 100 square feet, costing for the materials to manure 100 square feet about 2 cents, or for an acre 440 pounds costing nine dollars. In application it should be mixed with sand or earth in order to spread it more equally over the surface, otherwise it is difficult to distribute so small a quantity over so large a space; if not done so, the grass would be very uneven in its growth. When chemical fertilizer is used on lawns it is readily recognized by the passer by in the distinctive color of the grass, it being of a bluish green color instead of the yellowish green color usually seen when other substances are used. This fertilizer can be used to give the lawn two dressings in a season, but only one will be required unless the ground is exceptionally unfruitful.

TIME OF SOWING SEED.

Lawn seed may be sown at any time provided neither drought nor moisture are excessive; if done early in the season the lawn has every chance of getting into good condition in time to be of use for several months the same year. A dry time is the best for sowing, as raking is then more effectual, and the ground may be walked over with impunity. A calm day should be chosen for this purpose, for grass seed is so light that it is almost impossible to sow it regularly in rough weather.

When the sowing is completed the seed should be lightly raked in, using a rake with the teeth not too close together, so as to disturb the seed as little as possible. If the ground is damp at time of sowing, care should be taken not to walk over the seed after sowing,



RED CROSS CURRANT GROWN IN TREE FORM.

more than necessary, as it will adhere to the feet, and thus being removed will cause blank places. The sowing being finished, if the weather is dry, roll it with a light roller. This being completed, the ground may be moistened with as fine a spray as possible, so as not to disturb the surface, and may be kept moist as long as the weather remains dry, the best time for watering being the evening. Under favorable circumstances, in about a week's time, the blades of grass will be showing themselves pretty freely, in a fortnight they will have become sufficiently developed and numerous to give a green appearance to the lawn, and in three weeks from the time of sowing, they will require checking in order to make them tiller or spread at the root, which, after a liberal seeding, is the next point to be observed in forming a springy turf.

TOP DRESSING.

American lawn mowers drop the grass as cut, and nothing is carried off, hence the gradually increasing richness of the soil from vegetable accumulations is one reason why old lawns are better than new. It is a common opinion, however, that top dressing the lawn with stable manure, cast thickly over the lawn especially in the autumn, and allowing it to remain through the winter, is of great advantage; but the lawn frequently comes out in the spring in the worst possible condition. Many weed seeds are also added with the stable manure to germinate and grow and cost time and labor to eradicate them. It is far better to make the ground as rich as may be necessary before the lawn is sowed, and to add whatever may be needed afterwards in the form of a chemical fertilizer with no weed seeds.

ANDREW H. WARD.

An Old-Fashioned Farmer.

"It is not what you make on a farm so much as what you save," said an old-fashioned farmer who has just returned to town on the profits of his business. "It's not working hard, either, so much as good management," he added.

The inflexible rule of this farmer, a southern Connecticut man, was to buy nothing that he could raise on the farm. His cows and hens were fed on home grown corn, wheat and barley. His family ate home grown beef, pork and mutton, and bread from home grown wheat. Even the griddle cakes

for breakfast were from buckwheat raised at home and flavored with home grown honey or maple sirup.

Some of the more modern of the farmers thereabout laughed at the old man, but he has stuck to his ideas all his life, has lived comfortable, acquired a competence and was never worried when hard times came.

The neighbors both earned and spent more money, but are mostly no better off than he. Old-fashioned farming may not appear so brilliant as the modern plan, buying and selling everything used or produced, but for some men at least it is a safer and surer way.

Spring Care of Cows.

The larger portion of the dairymen of the United States, aside from those who furnish milk for the city markets, have their cows come fresh during the spring months, principally in March and April. This is the old time practice and for various reasons is still preferred by many. Of course during the summer season the cows should do better than when milked through the winter. But where this is the case, or rather the practice, it should always be the aim to have the cows in the best condition for successful milk production when the time arrives. If this is the case and proper care is then exercised they should do exceedingly well during the season.

On the contrary if the cows have been scantily fed and worse cared for, they can make but a poor beginning, and it will require a considerable time with better treatment to make up for what was lost during the winter. There cannot often be any reasonable excuse for poorly caring for dairy animals at any time of the year. If this is practiced, there will always be a reaction on the part of the cows that will even more than offset any supposed gain from economic motives. This is only the natural result of the laws of compensation, and which it will be wisdom on the part of the farmer to try to avoid.

In some parts of the country it will not be long now before vegetation will start anew and there will be a temptation to turn the cows out of doors too early. This practice is not advisable, only in exceptional cases. While the cows have to be fed in the barn, a taste of grass, even the old growth, might render the appetite and relish for their daily rations less keen and appreciative. This is something not to be desired, and every farmer who is intent on excelling in dairy matters should endeavor to feed

his cows up to the most profitable point for the production of milk and butter.

For this purpose the earliest and best portion of the hay crop, including a liberal proportion of clover if possible, should have been kept for spring use, and if there is ensilage, cured fodder corn, or any other feeding materials that will help to give variety and value to the feeding rations, it will be so much the better. And so with the grain feed. There should be enough of this for the most profitable feeding, and of those kinds that science and experience have demonstrated to be the best to go along with the different varieties of fodders being used, making as far as practicable the most satisfactory ration for securing the best results at the pail. This careful feeding and treatment should be followed as long as necessary to keep the cows at the barn and gradually discontinued—that is the feeding—as the change is made from the barn to the pasture.

E. R. TOWLE.

Franklin Co., Vt.

Our illustration this week, for which we are indebted to the courtesy of Green's Nursery Co., represents the Red Cross currant grown in tree form. The Red Cross is one of the specialties of this company, and is spoken of very highly by authorities on the subject who commend it for its vigor, productiveness, the large size and length of clusters and fruit, fine quality and color. Mr. Green says of it when grown in this form: "While I do not recommend growing the currant in tree form for the market, I advise it for the home garden, since grown in this form the currant is as valuable for ornament as for domestic use. The Red Cross Currant, for which we paid \$1,250, is well qualified for growing in tree form, since it is one of the most vigorous in existence, and for the further reason that it masses its fruit so that it can be readily gathered at one grasp, thus enabling a large amount of fruit to be grown on a small portion of wood. Our two year old tree form Red Cross are two to three feet high and will bear the first season."

The committee on agriculture in the Massachusetts legislature has taken a wise step in asking national aid to fight the gypsy moth. This year is in some respects a favorable time to make the demand upon the government, because entomologist Howard, appointed by the government to make the investigation, has voted in favor of the Massachusetts plan of extermination.

Uncleanliness in the Stable.

The largest part of the impurities found in milk get into it in the short time after it is drawn from the cow and before it leaves the stable. This brief period may be called the critical time in the history of dairy products, says Bulletin No. 63. In many stables, myriads of bacteria are entering the milk every minute it remains exposed, being carried there by many kinds of foreign matter, some of which would do no harm were it not for the germs it brings. Grotenfelt mentions the following impurities which he found in unstrained fresh milk: Manure particles, fodder particles, molds, fungi, cow hairs, particles of skin, human hairs, parts of insects, down from birds, small bits of wood, woolen threads, linen threads, fine threads, soil particles. It is evident that these different kinds of foreign matter are derived from numerous sources, but the bulk of the impurities consists of ordinary stable dirt, chiefly manure, and its presence in quantities, in milk, is evidence of slovenly methods. Over fifty grains of this matter have been found in 100 pounds of milk, and when it is remembered that it contains myriads of bacteria of the forms causing putrefaction and decomposition, it does not seem strange that milk is soon affected by its presence. Germs introduced in this way, in large numbers, may act as poisons to the delicate consumer and cause severe intestinal troubles.

Dirt gets into the milk when in the stable principally from three sources, viz, the cows, the milkers, and the air. But this classification is unnecessary for stables which are carefully cleaned only once or twice a week, and in which it is impossible for an animal or person to remain any length of time and come out uninfected; in such places there is a constant shower of bacteria.

DIRT FROM THE COWS.

The cows supply most of the dirt to milk, as anyone will admit if he is at all familiar with the conditions in many stables. It is not uncommon to see cows covered with so much dust that the color of their backs cannot be seen; their flanks, hips and sides are sometimes plastered with layers of manure.

When the work of cleaning the cows is neglected, it is impossible to keep milk even decently clean when milking. Large lumps of dirt, hairs, and straws are continually falling into the pail. The hairy coat is an excellent harbor for dirt and bacteria, and every time anything touches the skin, or the udder or surrounding parts are disturbed, a shower is precipitated. As more or less violent motion always occurs at milking, the loosely adhering particles are easily dislodged just at a time when the milk pail is in a position to collect them.

UNTIDY ATTENDANTS.

Untidy attendants constitute another source from which milk is contaminated. They frequently turn from cleaning the horses, or other equally dirty work, to milking the cows, with no thought of their unfitness to handle milk. On some farms milking is regarded as the dirtiest of all work, and the milkers prepare for it accordingly. Dust adheres to the milker's clothes almost as readily as to the cow's coat, and it easily falls from his shoulders and sleeves into the pail; his hands and finger nails also contribute a share to the contamination. Thus he may be the means of conveying to the milk as many kinds of germs as fall from the cow, and in addition to these he may transmit human diseases, as referred to above.

DUST-LADEN AIR.

Air is a source of germs found in milk. It is not a medium capable of supporting bacteria by itself, but it carries more or less of small particles of dust and organic matter in suspension, and these have many bacteria in and upon them. On account of the dust constantly being raised the number of organisms in the air of a stable may be considerable, especially if dry feed stuffs are used and the manure is allowed to become dry on the floor. Over 100 different kinds of organisms have been found in a single quart of

stable air. These do not increase in numbers while floating about, but they quickly commence a vigorous growth when they fall into fresh, warm milk. As dust is constantly tending to settle, the largest number of bacteria is to be found near the floor, and a vast number may fall into a milk pail or can in a very short time.

In some cases stable air contains so much dust, and milk is exposed to it so long that it is the chief means of contamination. Most of the dirt in the air is from dry, dusty fodder and bedding. When hay is thrown down through chutes, the air is quickly filled with dust, and air currents and the constant shaking of the hay by the animals keep the dust from settling. Some rises every time the bedding is disturbed, and it is naturally most abundant beneath the cow during milking.

FOREMILK.

Although milk is sterile when it is first secreted, it is extremely difficult to obtain sterile milk from the udder, because some germs succeed in finding their way to it even before it is drawn. A few drops of milk are always left in the teat after the milking is done; and the end of the teat remains moist. Germs from the air and from the dirt on the udder or bedding quickly plant themselves in this thin layer of fresh milk and rapidly increase in numbers. Some work up through the orifice into the cavity of the teat and milk duct, and those kinds which do not require a supply of air for growth find most favorable conditions there and the milk in the vicinity of the teat becomes contaminated by their increase. In this way lactic acid, or sour milk, bacteria, which later become so abundant, commence their work before the milk is drawn from the udder. Sometimes this form of contamination is quite serious, the first milk, or "foremilk," serving to affect the whole mess.

Raising Spring Calves.

More than the usual attention should this season be paid to the raising of calves for the use of the dairy. Last year there was a large demand for this kind of stock and there is reason to suppose that it may continue at least a year or two longer.

Farmers should raise enough of their best heifer calves for the use of their own dairies, and if they can do more than this there will undoubtedly be a ready demand for them provided they are of the kind wanted.

The raising of milking stock for the dairy is an important feature of the business and should receive more than ordinary attention. Care should be exercised in selecting the most promising animals for raising—that is from the best milk and butter producing stock—and if there is not enough of those on the farm, it will pay to get them from other sources.

All should remember that it costs little if any more to raise a well-bred calf than an ordinary one, and it may prove to be worth twice or three times as much.

There will also undoubtedly be a large demand for veal calves. This is generally the case when beef is scarce or high. In some parts of the country and particularly at the West, where there is a larger proportion of the beef breeds should this be a profitable industry. But wherever the calves are raised they should be well cared for from the first and fed with special reference to the purpose to which they are to be devoted, whether for the dairy or for beef.

E. R. TOWLE.

Franklin Co., Vt.

EVIDENTLY the Massachusetts legislature is not to trust the brown-tail moth campaign to the board of agriculture. The infested towns will have to take care of this pest themselves at present. What is needed is a body of experienced men permanently authorized to take care of all such insect invasions. If skilled and trained hands can take hold of the fight at the first appearance of the pest, these tremendously expensive campaigns might be avoided and the expense greatly reduced.

(Continued from Eighth Page of our last week's issue.)

Mr. Harris: In the interest of the cows, I believe the gentleman has made a very important point in the bedding of cows, to make them comfortable.

Mass., raises the largest berries of any person in these United States. His method is early fall or midsummer setting, so with Mr. J. F. Beaver of Day

close enough to draw the water and to overcome the deficiency, and other drains were put in half way between the first lot, or every eighteen feet through this section of very tenacious clay land. Three months after these extra drains were put in, the drainage seemed quite uniform throughout the entire series. It has been held that the deeper the drains, the greater the distance apart. This is only partly correct, and it would not be safe to say that if a drain two feet

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MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN
BOSTON, MARCH 26, 1898.

Persons desiring a change in the address of their paper must state where the paper has been sent as well as the new direction.

MASS. PLOUGHMAN FARMERS' MEETING
Saturday, March 26, 1898, 10 A. M.

Essay by Hon. O. B. HADWEN, of Worcester, Mass. Subject, "Ornamental Trees."

The next MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN Farmers' Meeting will be held in Wesleyan Hall, 36 Bromfield St., Saturday morning, March 26, 1898, beginning at ten o'clock. Hon. O. B. Hadwen of Worcester, Mass., will speak on "Ornamental Trees."

The recognition of Arbor Day has not seemed of as much importance to Eastern people on account of the abundance of trees here, but many a farmer would do well to inaugurate an Arbor Day on his own farm and plant a few trees occasionally. Too many farmhouses stand out bare and unlovely, unsoftened by the grace of tree, shrub or climbing vine. Long stretches of country road, unprovided with shade of any sort, might be avoided by the planting of a few trees on the farms bordering the roadside, transforming the dusty road into a pleasant country way. The farm home may be made much more attractive by the expenditure of a little time and forethought in this way, and it will not be a useless expenditure.

There is a commercial side to this question, too, for summer boarders are more attracted to a farm home shaded by ornamental trees artistically placed, and should it become necessary to sell the farm, the price received will be a more satisfactory one, especially if a city man is the purchaser. Trees, too, make a useful windbreak, and may be made to serve the purpose of shielding an exposed building or piece of ground, and, if well placed and wisely chosen, will combine both beauty and utility.

There are few people as well fitted to speak on this subject as Mr. Hadwen, as those who have seen his beautiful farm home in Worcester well know. The great variety of trees, their artistic disposition and thrifty growth have been one of Worcester's object lessons, and added largely to the beauty of that section of the city in which he makes his home. The PLOUGHMAN extends a cordial invitation to every one to attend the meeting.

VISITORS who come to the city on Saturdays should not fail to pay a visit to Horticultural Hall. Most of the exhibits there are free, but they are all well worth seeing.

ABANDONED farms are nothing peculiar to New England; they talk of them even in Kansas, of which it is said that there is not an acre in the whole state which cannot be ploughed.

The gold boom in Alaska may be followed by a boom in farming, since it is claimed that vegetables, hay and some kinds of fruit may be raised in wonderful profusion in that strange region.

The season is certainly very forward. Some of the farmers are already planting peas and other early vegetables. It used to be said that an early season was likely to be a dry season, but such is not always the case.

FRUIT growers should be cautioned to look out for the San Jose scale in their orchards and especially on new nursery stock. This terrible pest has been well established in many sections of New England and will cause the owners of infested orchards enormous expense before it can be cleared out.

RURAL free delivery seems to be making some progress this year, since the postoffice appropriation bill contains an item of \$150,000 for that purpose. This is three times the amount appropriated last year. Thus the movement makes a gradual process toward completion, and it is likely that in the course of half a dozen years most of the farmers will have their mail brought to their doors.

The great wheat speculation conducted by Leiter and other Chicago manipulators has been continued all winter, an immense amount of wheat still being held by the clique. This wheat is now being sold with the result that the market is greatly unsettled. The speculation cost millions of dollars and the outcome is still uncertain, but some experts prophesy that Leiter and his associates will lose money.

A WHOLE raft of agricultural bills have been vexing the law makers on Beacon Hill this winter, but the committee have shown good judgment in reporting "ought not to pass" for most of these measures. Such has been the effect of the attempts to change the tuberculosis laws; to appoint local milk inspectors; to require milk dealers to hold their non-tuberculosis licenses and various other well-intended but meddling measures.

THE high price of wheat in this country and the abundant crops in the Argentine Republic, South America, revive the old statement, that the United States is to become an importer of grain. In fact, South American grain as well as the surplus of this country, seeks the markets of Europe. The grain fields of Argentina are growing larger and larger every year and the time may come when a short wheat crop here will make it necessary to import extensively from our southern neighbors, but that time has not yet arrived.

DR. GREENE'S GREAT
Private Lecture to Men.

His Powerful, Thrilling Words to
An Immense Audience.

Glory of Man Lies in His
Strength and Vigor.

Men Need Not be Nervous or
Physically Exhausted.

HIS HEARERS WILL NOT FORGET
HIS HOPEFUL WORDS.

Medicines of Wondrous
Strengthening Power.

The Skilled Physician Speaks With
Absolute Knowledge.

For His Success in Curing
This Class of Ills

Is Greater Than That of Any Other
Physician.

An immense audience of men greeted that most successful of physicians, Dr. Greene of 34 Temple Place, Boston, Mass., in Music Hall, Boston, and listened with rapt and absorbed attention to one of the most powerful lectures ever delivered to men, a lecture filled with profound knowledge of the science of life, replete with grand truths, and teeming with vivid portrayals of those mighty facts, necessarily of a private nature, but nevertheless which constitute the very groundwork of life's knowledge, the underlying principle of the scheme of existence itself, and concerning which, men are often grossly ignorant, generally thoughtless and always careless, until a crisis arises in their lives—the loss of that vitality which distinguishes the weak from the strong, brings home to each the individual knowledge that only strength is power and that weakness means despair.

At Dr. Greene's stirring lecture these facts were brought out as only this skilled physician, thoroughly conversant with every phase of the subject, can portray the happiness which always accompanies strength and vigor, and also depicts the abject misery and despair which follows weakness and debility.

No man has a right to trifle with his health. The glory of man is his strength, and strength of character, strength of mind, strength of body, are dependent upon the maintenance of sound physical health, health of each and every organ, function and attribute of the human system; and true and complete happiness comes only to him who maintains the soundness of his nerve and physical strength, or restores and regains such strength, if by any means it is lost or impaired.

Ignorance of consequences, indiscretion and thoughtlessness are the great causes of physical decay, vital weakness and nervous debility among men. This condition of nerve weakness, exhausted powers and drains upon the system which slowly but surely, if allowed to continue, sap the very vitality, weaken the brain and body and tinge life and existence itself with the dark gloom of despair, is the most common of diseases among men, not only among the young, but in middle life and in old age, and it is the great problem which faces mankind at the present day.

Sufferers from nervous debility and exhausted vitality have a weak, languid and tired feeling, with gradual failing of strength. Where formerly they had feelings of strong and vigorous physical and nervous power, they now have only a sense of weakness, languor, dullness and exhaustion. There is a lack of ambition, with little inclination for physical or mental exertion. This is often especially noticeable in the morning, when every movement seems an effort. The night's sleep which should refresh the system and restore strength and vigor, often leaves them in the morning more tired and exhausted than when retiring.

After a time their nerve and mental strength will be impaired, and their endurance and power to work, read or study, diminished. Where formerly they could endure many consecutive hours of close application of the mind, they now find that the thoughts wander, and there is inability to fix the mind for any length of time upon one subject. With this there is extreme nervousness and irritable condition or dull, cloudy sensation, often accompanied by disagreeable feelings in the head and eyes. Lack of inclination for company and desire to be alone mark this stage of the disease.

As these symptoms increase there is usually derangement of the digestive organs. There is often a bad taste in the mouth in the morning. There will be at times a pain in the back, the vision becomes dim, the memory is impaired and there is frequent dizziness. Persons thus afflicted are often despondent and suffer from gloom and depression of the mind. The nerves become so weakened after a time that the least excitement or shock will flush the face or bring on a tremor or trembling often attended by more or less palpitation of the heart.

Dr. Greene expresses no blame for the victims of this insidious disease, for he realizes that this condition results from thoughtless ignorance of the consequences, and therefore merits and should have the deepest sympathy of the physician, and should be treated in the perfect confidence and cured with absolute secrecy. And it is in regard to the treatment and cure of this affection that Dr. Greene spoke most forcibly, strongly and positively. Knowledge. When he made the assertion that he had discovered medicines which surely and with absolute certainty cure this disease, no one doubted that it was the grand truth he spoke, that he had, indeed, from his wide experience in the treatment of this class of cases, his vast research and investigation among harmless vegetable medicines, discovered, perfected and prepared remedies absolutely certain to cure.

The doctor's high standing in the profession and his reputation as the most skillful and successful physician make this promise of cure believed by everybody—that if any sufferer will consult Dr. Greene at his office, 34 Temple Place, Boston, Mass., either personally or by writing a description of the case to Dr. Greene, and will use these wonderful medical discoveries, these harmless yet powerful and effective restorers of nerve strength and physical vigor to men, he will certainly and positively be cured. You consult Dr. Greene without charge—absolutely free, whether you call at his office, 34 Temple Place, Boston, Mass., or write him a letter about your case. All are welcome to call; or, if you prefer, you can write, and the same careful attention will be given your case, you will have your symptoms laid condition explained, and you can perfectly understand your trouble, and the exact price of the necessary medicines to cure will be stated. You can, of course, adopt the use of the medicines or not, as you choose.

Remember that Dr. Greene positively and emphatically asserts that such cases are perfectly curable if you will use these wonderful health and strengthening medicines, of the curative action of which he has absolute and positive knowledge. By their use thousands of hopeless sufferers have been made again strong, vigorous and happy, with renewed powers, energies and ambitions, and thus restored to their places among men. If you are wise you will seize this golden opportunity to be cured, and consult Dr. Greene without delay.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The United States government has made no further purchase of warships but one thing is sure, the O'Higgins, which was reported to have been sold by Chile to Spain, will become the property of the United States or not sold at all. The name of the Amazonas, recently purchased from Brazil, is to be changed to New Orleans in honor of the city of that name. The other cruiser has been rechristened Albany.

John Reed, who has swindled so many in this state, is beginning to feel the strong arm of the law, having been convicted of swindling S. D. Hardy of Framingham, and receiving a five years' sentence. Later he received another sentence of five years on a similar charge, Chas. Sweetser of Chelmsford being the victim in this case, whose petition for reimbursement is now before the legislature. There are several more counts still pending against Reed.

Once more the case of Mate Bram of the barkentine Herbert Fuller, on which Captain Nash, his wife, and Second Mate Blumberg were murdered nearly two years ago, is a topic of interest. There was sharp contest over the selection of a jury. A ruling of the judges has made it possible for the jury to return one of three verdicts: One finding him guilty of murder; the same, with the added words, "without capital punishment;" or, not guilty. This is made possible by the statute of 1897, passed since the murders on board the Herbert Fuller were committed, permitting juries in murder cases to qualify their verdicts with the words quoted. The witnesses and evidence is very largely the same as in the previous trial, although new evidence is to be given.

Although the New Bedford strike has been of ten weeks' duration it seems to be no nearer settlement than at the first. A compromise was proposed by the strikers last Saturday, making the reduction five instead of ten per cent but this was refused by the manufacturers. The support which the strikers are receiving from the outside is growing smaller each week. In most cases the strikers have not paid a cent of rent since the struggle began and in wages alone there has been about \$675,000 taken out of local circulation. The strike bears hard not only upon the operatives themselves, but upon the tradesmen who have been giving credit generously. It is marvellous how many of the strikers have been able to hold out as long as they have. There is some talk of urging the national executive of the different unions to call out all the operatives and making the tie-up complete throughout the New England States.

The long-looked for Maine verdict is expected to arrive in a few days and will be submitted to the President, then given out for publication after due consideration by him. The board of inquiry has been very successful in keeping the results of their investigations secret, and no one has any authoritative information upon which to base an opinion. Whatever the verdict is, it will be accepted by congress as the truth and by the country, also, in all probability. The most conservative and steady headed men are included in the makeup of the board and their judgment may be relied on, if that of any body of men can be. Whether or not Spain is shown to be implicated in the affair, the verdict will not probably be made a cause for declaration of war, as neither nation is anxious for such a result although taking precautionary measures. The President appears to have made up his mind to treat the report on the disaster as a matter wholly separate from the general Cuban situation and the moral duty of the United States to intervene. Of intervention in some way there appears to be no longer any doubt. All the stories which have been brought to the President by visitors to Cuba and the photographs of the victims of General Weyler's concentration tactics have greatly moved his sympathies, and the only question before him now seems to be what form his interference shall take, so as to avoid, if possible, giving Spain any sufficient pretext for war.

Senator Proctor of Vermont, who has just taken a trip through Cuba, not, however, as an official representative of the government, made a statement to the senate on his return in regard to the condition of affairs in Cuba. His statement is regarded throughout the country as authoritative, not only on account of the confidence felt in his good judgment, but also because of the evident care and justice which he exercised in recounting what he had seen in the unfortunate island. His statement may be summarized in the following important conclusions:

The Americans in Cuba believe the Maine was blown up from the outside. The situation there is not peace, nor is it war; it is desolation and distress, misery and starvation. The food supplies from United States have greatly relieved the suffering, but these supplies will be needed as long as the war lasts. The condition of the reconcentrados is no better under Blanco than it was under Weyler.

Of 1,600,000 people in Cuba, not over 200,000, outside of the soldiers, have acknowledged allegiance to Spain.

In one town, 400 women and children were literally starving to death.

The percentage of colored to white people in the island is not more than twenty-five per cent. and is steadily decreasing. There is no race prejudice. Every town and village in the four western provinces is surrounded by a

trocha intended to keep the reconcentrados in and the insurgents out.

The Cubans are practically in control of the island, as Spain holds only what her army stands on.

The business men, Spaniards as well as others, admit that it is too late now for autonomy under Spanish rule.

Literary Notes.

BIRDS OF VILLAGE AND FIELD by Florence A. Merriam can well be recommended to those who wish to form the acquaintance of the feathered songsters around them. A sentiment against the use of birds' plumage as hat trimmings can be created more easily by the wide circulation of such books as these than in any other way. Those who have read the books on the same subject by this author will know how valuable this latest volume will be found by beginners in the study of birds, for it is for this class the book is written rather than for those more deeply versed in the subject. It is clear and plain in its general plan and classification of the birds, attractive and readable in style and freely illustrated. All scientific and technical terms have been omitted so as not to confuse and discourage the learner, and with the aid of this book one may pass many a pleasant hour setting acquainted with the birds. The introduction to the volume gives much valuable information, including directions of how to find a bird's name, where to look for birds, how to watch them and learn their habits, which birds are the friends of the farmer and how to attract and keep birds about the home and farm. All bird lovers will wish for a large circulation of this book. Published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co., \$2.

There is what appears to be a well authenticated report of another big ice deal on the Kennebec. It is that the Haynes & DeWitt Company has sold for \$200,000 its two houses at Iceboro, which have a capacity of 70,000 tons, and the property at Nahumkeag, which has a capacity of 12,000 tons, to the Consolidated Ice Company of Philadelphia.

Constipation
Causes fully half the sickness in the world. It retains the digested food too long in the bowels and produces biliousness, torpid liver, indigestion, bad taste, coated tongue, sick headache, insomnia, etc. Hood's Pills cure constipation and all its results, easily and thoroughly. 25c. All druggists. Prepared by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

HOW TO
Save Fertilizer Money
THIS YEAR.

First.—Use the manure that is made on the farm. Second.—For additional plant food, buy fertilizers to supplement the manure, or alone after the manure pile has been used up. Third.—Instead of applying a ton of ordinary "phosphate" costing say \$30 to \$32 per ton, use half that quantity of the STOCKBRIDGE DOUBLE-STRENGTH SPECIALS costing not over \$20 on the farm. The half-ton of Stockbridge is richer than a whole ton of phosphate, and by this practice at the ordinary rate of application

You will save on one acre, \$10 to \$12
You will save on five acres, 50 to 60
You will save on ten acres, 100 to 120

besides getting as much or more plant food per acre, with probably better results, because the Stockbridge is made of the very best materials, and is the most concentrated fertilizer sold, besides being special.

High grade goods cannot be made of low grade materials. Low grade goods cannot be made of high grade materials without adding worthless material.

The New York Experiment Station says: "Farmers should invariably avoid purchasing low grade fertilizers unless they are sure the price is proportionately low—a condition which rarely accompanies the sale of such fertilizers."

Of course you want to save money this year in the purchase of fertilizers as well as in other things, and we believe it will pay you to correspond with us or see our local agents nearest you.

If you have not already seen it, send for our Pamphlet, "Two Strings," which explains our double-strength fertilizer fully.

BOWKER FERTILIZER CO.,
43 Chatham Street, BOSTON, MASS.

Washington News.

A good deal is being written and said just at present about the San Jose scale. The recent action of Germany in attempting to exclude American fruit and nursery stock from her markets has called very general attention to this pest in the United States. The entomologist of the Department of Agriculture, Dr. L. O. Howard, has just prepared an exhaustive bulletin on the history, effect and treatment of the scale.

"In the entire history of economic entomology in this country," said Dr. Howard, "no other insect has excited so much interest as has the San Jose scale. The attacks of the scale are insidious and in many instances it has acquired a firm footing in a locality before its proximity was suspected. However, it cannot be said that its advent in the East has been an unmixt evil. It has aroused the whole fruit-growing population of the country to a sense of the value of intelligent entomological investigation, has brought about legislation against injurious insects in a number of States, and has almost alone been responsible for the appeal from horticulturists and nurserymen all over the country for national legislation." The bulletin gives a symposium of the conditions and distribution of the pest in some thirty states and territories, showing its wide spread. In some sections climatic conditions seem to kill it and in others it is destroyed by fungus diseases. Work is now being done in investigating different fungi which will reduce its ravages. Dr. Howard gives a list of 55 fruit and shade trees and ornamental shrubs preyed upon by the scale. He devotes considerable space to experiments and other treatment of the pest.

At the same time that Eastern growers are becoming seriously worried over this insect, the San Francisco Chronicle prints a letter from a correspondent at San Jose who says, in commenting upon the great alarm in the East at the ravages of the scale, that he does not believe the trouble will be permanent any more than it is in California. One may imagine, he states, among the fruit farmers near San Jose for a year and never hear the pest mentioned. The lime, sulphur and salt remedy has been considered a sovereign remedy. There is today a San Jose practically no interest in the San Jose scale. He concludes: "We state this as a word of encouragement to eastern fruit growers who are now alarmed, as we were around San Jose about ten years ago."

The formula for the San Jose spray which is used in California is as follows: Unsifted lime, 40 pounds; sulphur, 20 pounds; salt, 15 pounds. Ten pounds of the lime is first slacked and boiled with

the sulphur in twenty gallons of water for three hours. The remaining lime and the salt is then added and the whole boiled another hour. Enough water is then added to make sixty gallons solution, which is strained before using. This is sprayed on the trees during the winter when the trees are dormant. It is also an excellent anti-fungus spray.

The name, "American Malze Propaganda," adopted by a recent organization in Chicago of gentlemen desiring to further introduce American corn abroad, was well chosen in view of the proposed work of the organization. In Europe, where the Malze Propaganda intends to carry on its work, the word "corn" does not signify what it implies in this country. Had the name selected been "American Corn Propaganda," it would fail to impress its real meaning upon many of the inhabitants of Europe, as various breadstuffs, other than American corn, are known by that name. The American Malze Propaganda has enormous possibilities ahead of it. It proposes to advertise corn in foreign cities and countries, showing foreigners how good as well as cheap an article corn is for table consumption and thus widen our market abroad for this truly American product. If the Malze Propaganda can cause an advance in the price of corn but a single cent per bushel, it will add over \$20,000,000 to the value of the annual crop.

The Secretary of Agriculture is heartily in favor of intelligent effort looking to a further opening of European markets to American corn. He is in hopes that Congress will provide a sufficiently liberal appropriation for the agricultural exhibit at the Paris Exposition to warrant an extensive display of corn and its products, including efficient demonstrators and cooks who will show visitors in a practical and substantial way what good American corn-bread, corn dodgers, cakes, etc., are like.

"I do not," said Mr. Wilson, "look for any particularly increased purchase of corn abroad among the poorest classes. It is quite generally supposed that the poor laboring man of Europe, when he is shown the toothsome and cheapness of the rye and wheat he now eats. I do not look for this at all. This class make their meals from one article of diet, be it wheat, rye or oats. They live on but one staple. They must have an article which will supply them sufficient nitrogenous matter to enable them to do a day's work and a hard day's work. They find it in rye, in wheat or in oats. They will not find it, however, in corn. Corn is fattening, and contains a large percentage of carbonaceous matter, but will not replace the tissues wasted by toll to the

extent that rye and oats and wheat will. Therefore, I look rather to see corn introduced among the better classes, who can afford more than one article on their tables and who will appreciate the sweetness and wholesomeness and variation of a partial corn diet, but who will not be dependent upon it solely for nourishment."

Mr. B. W. Snow, the late Assistant Statistician of the Agricultural Department and at present secretary of the Malze Propaganda, is working late o' nights for the success of the scheme. It is the hope of the organization, after the Paris Exposition, to continue the work of advertising American corn in all the large cities of Europe, having practical, free demonstrations of the great variety of wholesome dishes it is possible to prepare from it.

The following table (stated in round numbers) from the figures of the Bureau of Statistics of the Treasury Department shows a gratifying comparison of the exports of February, 1898, with the corresponding month of last year.

	Feb. 1898	Feb. 1897
Wheat, bushels.....	6,900,000	8,700,000
Wheat flour, barrels.....	3,000,000	3,700,000
Corn, bushels.....	22,000,000	18,000,000
Oats, bushels.....	1,100,000	1,800,000
Rye, bushels.....	1,300,000	600,000
Oat meal, pounds.....	6,800,000	3,900,000

The total exports of breadstuffs for February, 1898, amounted in value to \$21,898,172 against \$15,049,773 for February, 1897.

The following figures showing the Chicago prices of May pork and products during the week ending March 19, 1898, compared with the week of a year ago are useful in showing the general advance in the value of hogs.

	1897	1898
May pork.....	8.92 1/2	10.27 1/2
Sides.....	4.32 1/2	5.17 1/2
Lard.....	4.32 1/2	5.25

The total exports of pork products for the week were in pounds, 25,046,000 against 269,800,000 for the corresponding week of last year.

AMERICAN machinery is becoming very popular in Europe. In tests made in France, an American binder won five competitive tests. If all farmers were equal to the best farmers, who would buy the produce? \$100 Reward, \$100. The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietor has to much faith in its curative powers, that they offer one hundred dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for free information. Address, F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

WAITING.

"Little white snowdrop, just waking up,
Violet, daisy and sweet buttercup,
Under the leaves and the ice and the snow,
Waiting, waiting to grow."

"Think of the thousands of queer little seeds,
Of flowers and mosses and ferns and weeds,
That are under the leaves and the ice and the snow,
Waiting, waiting to grow."

"Think of the roots getting ready to sprout,
Spreading their slender brown fingers about,
Under the leaves and the ice and the snow,
Waiting, waiting to grow."

"Only a month, or a few weeks more,
Will they have to wait behind that door;
Wait and watch and listen below,
Waiting, waiting to grow."

"Nothing so small, or hidden so well,
That God cannot find it, and presently tell
His sun where to shine, and his rain where to
Helping, helping them grow."

—Author unknown.

A JAPANESE STORY.

A long, long time ago, there dwelt a father and mother whose little daughter was as beautiful as the sunlight itself.

But one day, the father was called to the city where the king dwelt, and so was forced to say good-bye to his beautiful daughter for the first time in her short life.

Now the child's mother had never been away from her home in all her life; and so when the father went so far away she was frightened. She was sure some dreadful thing would happen to him; and still she was very proud; for he was the first man from that town that had ever been called by the king to the great city.

At last the time came for the father to come back. The fond mother—as mothers in all time have done—dressed herself and the beautiful child in their prettiest dresses and together they waited his coming.

By and by he came; and he brought with him many presents for both mother and child, and besides he had marvelous stories to tell of the wonderful far-off city.

"I have brought you the most strange present," said he to his wife. "It is called a mirror. Something we have never had in our village, and I think no one of us ever even heard of one before."

Then he gave the little box to his wife, saying, "Tell me what you see."

She opened it. There lay a piece of shining metal. It was ornamented with frosted silver, carved in birds and flowers. "How beautiful!" said the wife. "How it shines! and how beautiful the birds and flowers are!"

"Look closely into it," said the husband, "and tell me what else you see."

The good wife raised it and looked into it.

"Why?" she said, "I see a beautiful woman's face. How her eyes shine; and what a bright, shining face she has. And her lips are moving as if she were talking. And—how strange!—she has a dress of blue exactly like my own!"

How the husband laughed. How proud he was that he knew something no one else in the village knew.

"Dear wife," said he, "it is your own beautiful face you see; it is your own laughing eyes; for this is a mirror and it shows everything that is held before it."

"How wonderful!" was all the amazed wife could say; and all day long she and her little daughter looked into the mirror and laughed and talked with it.

But then it came into the thought of the mother, "How vain I am. I am very foolish."

And she hid the mirror away and never allowed herself to ever take one tiny peep into it.

Years passed away; the little child had grown to be a young woman as beautiful as her own mother. Indeed, she was so exactly like her mother that one could hardly tell them apart except that one was a little older than the other.

But one day the good mother grew very ill. She knew that she had only a few hours to live, and her heart was very heavy to think that her dear child would soon forget her.

So she took the little mirror out from its hiding place and called the daughter to her.

"Dear child," said she, "I am going away to leave you. But here is a little mirror. Promise me that every morning and night you will look into it, for you will see me there and then you will know that I am watching over you always. When you are happy you will see that I am happy; and when you are sad you will see that I am sad with you."

Then the mother died and the child was left alone with her father.

But she was not sad for she had the wonderful mirror. Every night and morning she looked into it and saw her mother's face looking up into hers.

Every night she told the face in the mirror all that had happened during the day; and the mother spoke back always though she could not hear what she said. It whenever she had joyous news to tell, the mother's face was always joyous, and when she had sad news to tell the mother's face was always filled with sad sympathy.

So the child lived on, growing sweeter and lovelier every day; for she thought always only such thoughts as she would like her mother to see, and did only the things that her mother would like to know she had done.

"Dear mother's face grows kinder and sweeter every day," said she to her father one day.

"The father's eyes filled with tears, "Yes, dear child," said he, "it does; and your own face grows every day more like your mother's. And it will be so always so long as you are good and true."

One day a handsome young prince came riding through the town. "Who is that lovely maiden?" said he, as he passed the home of this sweet young woman. "For never in my life have I seen a face so sweet. Would that she might dwell with me in my palace and be my princess!"

And so it came about that one day the beautiful daughter left her father's home to be a princess. And never till she reached the great city where the grand

ladies all had mirrors, did she know that it was her own face she had been looking into all these years.

But now she understood; and she loved her sweet mother all the more now that she knew her mother had taken this way to help her grow good and true, when she could no longer herself guide and teach her.—Primary Education.

A LITTLE BROWN SEED.

A little brown seed, 'way down in the ground
Was sleeping so hard he heard not a sound,
Till the robin called in a voice so shrill,
He sleepily said, "Oh, Robin, be still!"

"Wake!" said the robin; "Oh, Johnnie—jump up,
You're late; it's most time for sweet buttercup.
You must come first and hear me sing;
Johnnie—jump up, jump up and grow!"

So Johnnie awoke and pushed out of bed
First his green leaves, then yellow head.
It made him so happy to see the sunlight,
He bowed to the robin and said, "You were right."

—Child Garden.

THE HOME CORNER.

FREE PATTERN.

By special arrangements with the BAZAR GLOVE-FITTING PATTERN CO., we are able to supply our readers with the Bazar Glove-Fitting Pattern at very low cost. It is acknowledged by every one that these patterns are the simplest, most economical and most reliable patterns published. Full directions accompany each pattern, and our lady readers have been invariably pleased with them in the past. The coupon below must accompany each order, otherwise the pattern will cost the full price.

MASS. PLOUGHMAN COUPON.

Cut this out, fill in your name, address, number and size of pattern desired, and mail it to:
THE HOME CORNER, MASS. PLOUGHMAN,
BOSTON, MASS.

Name.....
Address.....
No. of Pattern.....
Size.....
Enclose ten cents to pay expenses.

70-4-Child's Collar Dress.

7315-Boys' Blouse.

7315-Boys' Blouse.

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aceterie sought. The lining is cut to a trifle below the waist line, and should be fitted with care, closing at the centre. The full front is adjusted over it and laps at the left shoulder, the line being continued to the edge of the skirt, a feature which renders it peculiarly well suited to stout or short figures. The bottom of the skirt is left plain, simply faced with a fitted facing of the material. The sleeves are in two pieces, the slight puff and the close portion being cut in one. For home wear during the summer, lawn, gingham, organdy, lappet lawn and pebble are all suitable. For steamer use nothing rivals cashmere and light-weight flannel, the latter having the advantage of laundering perfectly, if average care be taken. To make this gown for a lady in the medium size will require seven yards of forty-four inch material. The pattern, No. 7321, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inch bust measure. With coupon, 10 cents.



70-4-Child's Collar Dress.

Whatever the novelties of the season, or however many the fancy gowns put forth, the guimpe model always has its place, and many mothers hold that nothing else can ever be so good. The design shown is well suited to cashmere, challis and similar light-weight wool stuffs as well as to gingham and the whole range of summer materials. As illustrated it is somewhat more dressy, however, and made of embroidered Swiss with trimming of lace insertion and edging, and is worn with a guimpe of fine white Persian lawn. The gown proper is simply full, the upper edge being gathered and attached to a shallow foundation yoke. Over this yoke are laid the lace bands; and epaulettes of the material extend over the shoulders where they are supported by the short puffed sleeves. The skirt portion is simply finished with a hem, hemstitched in order to give the best results. To make this dress for a child of four years will require two and one-half yards of 36-inch material. The pattern, No. 7304, is cut in sizes for children of 2, 4, 6 and 8 years. With coupon, ten cents.

Here are some of the colors which will lead in the world of fashion: Puritan gray, infantry blue, serpent green, castor brown, mordore brown, Delit blue, Roman blue, fuchsia red, and all the varying shades of grays and tans, says the Philadelphia Record, in its fashion notes.

A novelty in cotton goods is the woven flounce on the ever-popular and dainty sashes. On a background of violet, green, or maize yellow, is a woven dot or ring of some contrasting color, and the effect is very pleasing.

Plaids and stripes are much in evidence, and which are the more stylish depends upon the wearer—that is to be. None but a tall, slender woman should affect the former, while the stripes add much to the apparent height of a dumpy woman.

This season, it is the skirt that betrays "an old-fashioned" costume. It can easily be remedied by a clever needlewoman. Try on the skirt before a long glass, have the upper part pinned until the fullness is taken out and it is as close-fitting as possible. If the skirt is not sufficiently wide at the hem, you can give it the requisite spring by a full Spanish flounce, headed by two or three rows of ribbon for a stuff or silk frock, and embroidery for a wash gown. The flounce should be set in ten inches above the hem. Adding the flounce gives a chance to lengthen a frock; all the gowns touch all around this season. You can easily lengthen the skirt underneath the flounce; it will never show. The flounce is the great resort in making over a skirt, and, as a fashion, it will exhibit this season. The affair is readily arranged.

There is little change in the waist or sleeves of summer frocks. The huge sleeves were curtailed at least a year ago, so last summer's waist showed musty, without being stamped as a veteran. Sashes will be worn generally, so the chief expense so far as the waist goes will be in buying fresh ribbons. To remodel the waist of a dress, so that it will look modish, remove the long, narrow waistcoat and put in a guimpe. You can fill in the space occupied by the old vest with the same material as the waist; let it droop slightly below the waist line so it will have a blouse effect. Round the corners of the guimpe and put some colored silk under heavy black silk passe-

menterie in the opening. When you refresh the collar, put the little rosette under the chin instead of at the back of the neck.

The up-to-date shirt-waist is made up with four little plaits arranged each side of a box-plaited centre. The shirt fastens on an invisible flap underneath the box plait. If the waist is of silk, the box plait is pierced at intervals to display pretty buttons. The wash waist of gingham is really more stylish without the studs, so in that case the box-plait is innocent of buttonholes.

The bicycling costumes this season are made on much the same lines as last year, with the skirt of medium length, cut so as to look well both on and off the wheel, says Harper's Bazar. For midsummer, shirt-waists will be worn with this skirt. For early spring wear, the newest coat is the style between an Eton and a mess jacket. It fastens at the throat, and yet hangs away at the waist-line. It is finished down either side of the front with a row of little bone buttons, has a narrow turn-over collar and three straps of cord which go across and over again, fastening or not, as desired. The skirt, which opens at the side, as all good bicycle skirts must needs do, has two short rows of small bone buttons on either side of the front breadth. The material most in favor is light cheviot of a tan color; but there are many gowns made up in dark blue and black.

That the importance of proper sanitary conditions in and about the house was never so well understood as now, not only by the dwellers in large towns where hygienic matters are of necessity often agitated and brought to the attention of everyone, but by housekeepers in the most remote country homes, goes without saying, says the N. Y. Observer. And yet several cases of diphtheria and typhoid fever that have occurred in the homes of thrifty farmers, (three of which were unquestionably caused by the poisonous gases from decaying vegetables and fruit stored in the cellars, and the others by an untrapped sink drain in a room that served the double purpose of kitchen and dining room) since the unreasonably warm and damp weather of January shows that among even the more intelligent housewives it is a general, vague sort of knowledge, rather than a clear and active comprehension of the "you shall and you shall not" of home sanitation.

Granted that the value of a properly made cellar as the foundation for a house, and for the cold storage of vegetables, fruit and other edibles—especially in country houses—is fully appreciated, it still has a much more important bearing upon the health of a family than we are in the habit of believing. In fact, aside from the drainage and sewerage, it is the most important feature of the house from a sanitary point of view, as little benefit can be derived from the use of purifiers and disinfectants, or even the most perfect sanitary conditions above ground, if the cellar is damp and unwholesome.

The air which is breathed in the first and second stories of a house is largely composed of the atmosphere of the cellar. This being so, a cellar ought to be as clean and dry and fresh as any room in the house; and if properly made, it rests wholly with the housewife whether it is such a convenience and comfort, or a menace to the health of the family, if not a productive disease breeder. Can anyone imagine a more pitiful or wretched condition than for one to awaken to the fact, as did one of the mothers to whom reference has been made, that her own ignorance or carelessness caused the death of a loved one?

Start a new order of things. Never was "now" a more acceptable time. Put on a "John the Baptist" gown and a leather girdle, and peer into every dark corner, underneath bins, and behind barrels and boxes. Sweep thoroughly, and if the day is mild enough, open the outer door and an opposite window and let the fresh out-of-door air penetrate to the innermost corner.

If "John" and the boys are a bit easy and shiftless (as some of us are disposed to be when work is not pressing) keep on your armor and cry aloud in this wilderness until they, too, appreciate the danger and remove every decaying vegetable and rotten board from floor and bins, all matter that is liable to become mouldy, and the fungi from walls and musty corners. If the floor is of earth, or damp, and boards are laid here and there to walk on, the latter really aggravate the danger unless they are raised on cleats that allow a circulation of air underneath. All barrels and bins should be elevated in the same way, and be swept under at least once a week.

If the cellar is very damp, do not risk waiting for spring, but give the walls a thorough whitewashing now, adding a little solution of copperas, and put boxes of unslacked lime and of charcoal in out-of-way places. The former will absorb dampness and the charcoal help to keep it pure.

If the drainage is imperfect, or the walls are leaky, or other structural defects are found that cannot be remedied till spring, give it the first place in your list of "must haves" for the spring renovation. Better, a thousand times better, to use ragged carpets or even soiled wall paper, than live over a cellar that is literally yawning for its victims.

Early in March bring from the cellar such plants as fuchsias, chrysanthemums, and other hard-wooded, shrubby plants. Give them but little water until they start into growth. Increase the supply gradually as development goes forward, says Eben Rexford in Harper's Bazar.

Fuchsias will need cutting back, but do not do this until they "break" and show where the new branches are to be. Then go over them and cut out all weak growth, and shorten all branches to within a foot of the pot. By doing this you secure strong new growth, and the plant is renewed each season. Repeat the plants as soon as fairly under headway, if possible, as this work can be done to better advantage now than later. If you cannot do this now, give a weekly application of some good fertilizer. Shower the foliage daily, and keep the soil moist at all times.

Chrysanthemums will begin to throw up shoots as soon as they come to the light. Select the strongest of these and cut them away from the old plant with some roots attached. Put them in small pots. Aim to get them well established before rapid growth is encouraged. By so doing you lay a foundation for future excellence. Chrysanthemums forced while young seldom make good plants. Hydrangeas should not be pruned any in spring, as that would interfere with the season's crop of flowers. As soon as growth sets in see that the plant gets all the water it can make use of, and give a fertilizer liberally to encourage the development of the buds.

Gloxinias and tuberous begonias should be potted now. Use a compost of leaf-mold and sand. Keep the soil rather dry until the plants begin to grow. Give them good light, but keep them out of strong sunshine. Five-inch pots will be large enough for the season.

Start tuberous and dahlias into growth. These plants come from countries where the season is long, and we of the North can expect but little success with them unless we contrive to lengthen out our brief summer. This we can do by giving the plants an early start. Do not keep dahlias very wet or warm, as that will force a rapid, weak growth. Pot the entire bunch of roots, and separate the tubers at planting time—not before. Each tuber, with a sprout attached, will make a good plant. Before planting tubers, cut away the bunch of roots generally found at the base of the bulb. Canna roots should also be potted and started into growth now. Treat like dahlias.

Miss Maria Elliott gave the first in a series of lectures on "Mechanism of the Home" at the School of Housekeeping of the Women's Educational and Industrial Union recently, which is reported in part in the Transcript. She began by speaking of the three heating principles—conduction, induction and radiation—showing how they should be applied to the modern dwelling. "Good absorbers are good radiators," said the lecturer, "and bad absorbers are bad radiators. Experience has established the fact that a bright, smooth surface does not radiate heat as well as a dull, rough surface. Steam or hot water pipes must radiate heat, if rooms are to be warmed. Such pipes are never smooth. The five o'clock teakettle, the coffee urn, the meat cover are smooth and polished to keep the heat in; the pipes are roughened and painted or coated in some way. A well-known writer speaks of the unscientific absurdity of the modern parlour stove. Here we have an apparatus, built for the express purpose of radiating heat, and yet so constructed as to give out the minimum. Everything that can be nickel-plated receives such coating, and mica doors are used in preference, although that substance radiates but eighty per cent and nickel but twelve per cent. So the housewife, who is delighted with the beauty of her parlor base-burner, is probably burning twice or three times the amount of coal that she would use if she were to strip off all its ornaments.

Touching on the principles of ventilation, Miss Elliott said: In this climate it is impossible to have at the same time good ventilation, sufficient heat and cheapness—for ventilation costs. The expense comes in the mode of construction, the apparatus demanded and its maintenance after the necessary conditions have been provided. There is, however, a large margin between safety to health and perfect conditions. Good ventilation admits enough fresh air to dilute the impurities to a degree which is safe for all persons. Carbon dioxide is heavier than air only when both are at the same temperature. Bad air from respiration or by fires and lights is at a higher temperature than the surrounding air, so that in high rooms, the largest proportion of this gas is on hand, perhaps two-thirds, up. A trained nose is a good test for the proper conditions of a room. If the air does not "smell," when one enters from out-doors, the ventilation may be said to be good. A room full of air is like a bottle full of water—no more can get in until some has gone out. If windows are the only means of inlet and outlet, they must be lowered at the top to purify the inverted lake of bad air over our heads."

Miss Elliott gave suggestions as to keeping a house in a healthful condition, saying it should be flushed, generously flushed, with fresh air every morning. In winter, especially, the living-room windows should be opened before the house is closed for the night, in order that the bad air may not force itself into the sleeping apartments, and also that they may be more easily warmed in the morning. A skylight or window in the upper story should be left open all the time, she said, as well as the bathroom window.

I have one preacher that I love better than any other upon earth; it is my little tame robin, which preaches to me daily. I put his crumbs upon my window-sill, especially at night. He hops on the sill whenever he wants his supply, and takes as much as he desires to satisfy his need. From thence he always hops on to a little tree close by, and lifts up his voice to God, and sings his carol of praise and gratitude, tucks his little head under his wing and goes fast asleep, and leaves tomorrow to look after itself. He is the best preacher that I have on earth.—Martin Luther.

OVER-WROUGHT NERVES OF WOMEN.</



THE HORSE.

The Carriage Horse.

Breeding and educating the carriage horse for the market is undoubtedly a remunerative industry, provided the animal raised comes into the grade termed "first-class." Second-class animals, be they ever so well matched as pairs, only command prices up to cost of production. Horses from eleven hundred and fifty pounds to twelve hundred and fifty pounds, competent to draw a family carriage at the rate of eight or ten miles an hour, are always in demand at home and abroad at remunerative prices. The education from colthood up to the adult age of five years brings out the characteristic mien when the animal has the desired conformation with breeding, but without the education the style is absent and the price goes down. The straw yard well littered is the means of bringing out the knee and hock action, and the "dumb jockey," as it is termed, develops the carriage of the head and neck, with the elevated tail so much admired in good society.

Steady, quiet driving with a stallion horse alongside the pole of a break wagon daily for five or six weeks for an hour a day, getting the colt well acquainted with objects met with on the road, caressing him when timid, instead of using the whip, will give the colt confidence that no harm will happen to him. Thus he will be free from nervousness and the tendency to take fright.

It is the quiet handling of the young horse that makes him a fearless animal, whereas the use of the whip develops excitability and skittishness never to be eradicated.

Ladies have a word in purchasing carriage horses and always look for docility. The least display of a fractious temperament often stops the sale of an otherwise desirable pair of horses.

After a horse has been well beaten with a driving whip he never forgets the flagellation, so that when a passing driver uses his whip it excites the young horse and arouses doubts as to his temper and steadiness.

There is no necessity to drive young horses long journeys when educating them. Short journeys, which accustom them to the pole and to objects on the road, are all that is needed. The risk of throwing out splints, spavins and curbs need not be encountered by driving at a fast pace or making long journeys. The object is to educate the youngster so that his tractability and good manners will attract attention and result in a profitable sale.—Baltimore Sun.

—The trustees of the Maine State Fair have decided to drop the two-year-old trotting stakes, believing it for the best interests of horse breeding not to encourage fast trotting by horses at this tender age, the judgment of many eminent horsemen being that trotting at this age was apt to be injurious and of doubtful advantage to the horse breeding industry.

Nothing equal to GERMAN PRAT Moss for horse bedding. Healthy and economical and widely used. C. B. Barrett, importer, 45 North Market street, Boston.

BICCEST
Harness Sale
Ever Known in the History of the Harness Trade in Boston.

We have just purchased the entire stock of James R. Hill & Co., and while alterations to the building are in progress we will close out an immense stock of their celebrated "Concord" and other makes of Harness for every conceivable purpose at less than half their value. This is a genuine bargain sale of this line of goods and will last but a short time only.

Reduced to
\$13.00 Buggy Harness, \$ 7.75
\$40.00 Buggy Harness, 30.00
\$50.00 Buggy Harness, 35.00
\$60.00 Brass Collar & Hame Harness, 35.00
\$60.00 Silver Collar & Hame Harness, 40.00
\$40.00 Genuine Rubber Carriage Harness, 25.75
\$125.00 Fine Good Road Buggy or Trap Harness, 67.50
Coups and Rockaway Harness, reduced to \$35.00, \$60.00, \$75.00
Long Tug Coach, reduced to \$85.00, \$125.00, and \$245.00
Concord "Hack," reduced from \$100.00 to \$75.00
Light Driving Buggies, Prices cut almost in two.
Heavy Double Team, Express and Farm Harness, \$90.00 to \$25.00
Express and Delivery, \$16.75, \$17.50 and \$22.00, according to weight.
A few ladies' second hand Riding Saddles left. Some left hand Golf Clubs, best make, 60c.
If not convenient to make a personal visit and inspection, send in your orders by mail, describing the kind of Harness you want. We will give you as good a bargain as if you made your own selection, and will send it anywhere in New England, with privilege of returning at our expense if not satisfactory.

LONDON HARNESS STORE CO.
300 Devonshire St., Near Franklin.

Boston Cooking School.

All ingredients mentioned in the following recipes are measured level.

The lesson given at the Cooking School, Wednesday morning, March 23, included nothing which could not be easily prepared in one's own home for the family table and any family would be very glad to welcome the introduction of any of the dishes into their daily menu. Chicken Gumbo, Fish Timbals, Shrimp Sauce, Livers with Tomato Sauce, Zwieback, Coffee and Pistachio Croquettes with Claret Sauce were prepared and served.

CHICKEN GUMBO. Cook one quart chicken stock, one pint okra and one pint tomato fifteen minutes. Fry one-half cupful pork cubes with an onion; add two tablespoonfuls flour, and brown. Strain into the soup, season with salt, pepper and cayenne; add one cupful chicken cut in cubes, boil two minutes and serve.

This had a very good flavor. The okra is grown more in the South than it is here in the North, and is not very frequently found fresh in the market. It may be had in cans, however, and the flavor is very pleasant. If the tomato is acid, a small amount of soda may be necessary.

FISH TIMBALS. To one pound cooked halibut, finely chopped, add one teaspoonful salt, a few drops onion juice, and one-half teaspoonful lemon juice, a few grains cayenne, and one-third cupful thick cream beaten. Fold in the whites of three eggs beaten stiff. Cook until firm, in small buttered moulds, and set in a pan of hot water, covered with buttered paper, buttered side down.

This quantity makes eight moulds full, if the small ones are used. These may be garnished with truffles cut in fancy shapes, or chopped, or with lobster coral. Those at the lesson were garnished with a whole shrimp on each timbal, and lobster coral sprinkled upon it, a tiny sprig of parsley being added to give a bit of green. The effect was a pretty one but the timbals were good enough without the addition of the garnish. If it is desired to keep lobster coral a day or two, it is easily done by putting it in a kind of pickle made by adding a little vinegar to salted water. Freshen the coral before using. These timbals may also be made with lobster instead of the cooked halibut.

SHRIMP SAUCE.—Add to one-half cupful washed butter the yolk of two eggs, a few grains cayenne, one tablespoonful lemon juice or vinegar, and one-third cupful boiling water. Cook over hot water until it thickens, add one-half cupful hot shrimps broken into small pieces and serve, pouring it around the fish timbals.

The foundation for the shrimp sauce is really a thin Hollandaise sauce. The small amount of butter in this recipe may be easily washed in a bowl of cold water, using a wooden spoon or butter paddle to work it with instead of the hands, or it may be washed in cold water as it runs from the faucet. Either fresh or canned shrimps may be used for the sauce, canned shrimps being used at the lesson, a half can being sufficient. They may be heated either by setting the dish containing them into hot water, or putting them directly into hot water, keeping it however, below the boiling point. In making a thick Hollandaise sauce, which is much more likely to separate, the addition of a tablespoonful of hot white sauce to the Hollandaise after the latter thickens, will make it much less liable to separate. No sauce, having a Hollandaise for foundation, should be allowed to stand before serving.

CHICKEN LIVERS WITH TOMATO SAUCE.—Clean six chickens' livers, season with salt and pepper, dip in crumbs, egg and crumbs, and saute, using pork fat or butter.

For the sauce, brown two tablespoonfuls butter with a slice of onion; add two tablespoonfuls flour, and brown. Pour on one-half cupful each of stock and stewed and strained tomatoes; season with salt, pepper and cayenne.

These were delicious, and a change from the standard meat dishes. Chicken livers can easily be cooked in the chafing dish, if liked.

ZWIEBACK.—Mix two yeast cakes with one-half cupful milk which has been scalded and cooled until lukewarm; add one-half teaspoonful salt and one cupful flour; beat well and let rise, then add one-fourth cupful sugar, one-fourth cupful melted butter, three eggs unbeaten, and flour enough to shape. Shape into finger rolls and put close together on a baking sheet with no butter between them. Arrange in two parallel rows, a two-inch space between the rows. Let rise and bake in a moderate oven, about twenty minutes being necessary. Cool, cut in two-inch slices diagonally across the sheet of rolls, and brown in the oven until of a rich, even brown, and dry and crisp throughout.

These are very good indeed, and much healthier than fresh bread, twice baked, being always more easily digested. They are especially appropriate with coffee. This may also be baked in a loaf instead of the rolls, although the genuine Zwieback is always baked in this form.

COFFEE.—Beat one egg slightly, add one cupful coffee and one-half cupful cold water. Pour into a scalded coffee-pot, add six cupfuls freshly boiling water, stir well, and boil three minutes. Add one-half cupful cold water, and let stand ten minutes.

Opinions differ as to whether boiled or filtered coffee is least harmful. For black coffee, Miss Farmer recommends filtered coffee, but considers boiled coffee the better for ordinary use. A combination of Mocha and Java is the general favorite, the male berry Java being considered the finest coffee to be had. The real coffee aroma is best obtained by grinding the coffee in one's

own home, as much of it is lost when the ground coffee is not immediately used. Ground coffee is better kept in a glass jar with a closely fitting cover. For boiled coffee, it should be ground either coarse or medium; for filtered, it is necessary to grind it fine. There are many kinds of coffee pots on the market, most of them good. At the Cooking School where they make boiled coffee (and delicious coffee it is, too) the coffee pot is a granite one, with a very short spout. The longer the spout, the more danger of its getting clogged and the less likelihood of its being thoroughly cleaned. Great care should be exercised to keep the coffee pot perfectly clean. It should be washed with clear water, not soap, and if it is difficult to remove the dark deposit, it should be filled with cold water, a little borax, soda or ammonia added, and set on the stove to slowly heat. This loosens the dirt and it may easily be removed. The pot should be thoroughly dry before setting it away, and it should never be left with the coffee or coffee grounds in it. It is better to take the precaution to thoroughly scald the pot just before making the coffee, as much of the success depends upon the condition of the coffee pot.

To retain the aroma of the coffee, plug the spout of the pot. If a larger quantity of coffee is made than is required, the remainder should not be reheated and served again but strained from the coffee grounds and will serve as a very good flavoring for custards, cakes and various desserts. For clearing the coffee, use eggs, dashkin or any of the coffee clearers for sale. The egg shell to which some of the albumen of the egg usually clings, may be also added, and four egg shells alone will be sufficient to use with one cupful of ground coffee. It should never be used in smaller quantities than that allowed for in the recipe, use always the same proportions. Serve with cream or scalded milk. Those who cannot drink coffee will usually like one of the cereal coffees on the market, and a good flavor will be given by using one-fourth or one-third real coffee in combination.

PISTACHIO CROQUETTES.—To one quart cream add three-fourths cupful sugar, three-fourths tablespoonful vanilla and one-fourth tablespoonful color, green and freeze. Shape in cones with an ice cream server and roll in macaroon dust made by powdering stale macaroons.

These were very pretty and sufficient for good without the sauce.

CLARET SAUCE.—Boil one cupful sugar and one-fourth cupful water eight minutes or until it thickens slightly; cool, and add one-third cupful claret.

The next lesson will be given at the rooms of the Cooking School, 372 Boylston St., Wednesday morning, March 30, beginning at ten o'clock. The subject will be "Cake and Frosting." Single admission, fifty cents.

Mass. Horticultural Society.

The annual spring exhibition of the society was one of the largest ever held, and the space provided was not half large enough to accommodate all the specimens offered for exhibition. Hyacinths, lilies, tulips, narcissi, jonquils and many other spring beauties contributed to the beauty of the exhibition. More than \$1,100 in prizes were offered.

Hon. E. S. Converse, Mrs. John L. Gardner, Dr. Weld, J. S. Bailey and Mrs. B. P. Cheney contribute the largest collections, which include cinerarias, hardy primroses, crocuses, frezias, lilies, etc. Three remarkably fine acacia trees, with their feathery yellow blossoms, are the centre of attraction in their surroundings of choice azaleas, and other hard-wooded plants, natives of New Zealand and Australia, and grown by Dr. Weld.

Just in front of the platform there is a Crimson Rambler rose bush, shown by Charles Souther of Jamaica Plain. It is about four feet in height and bears nearly three thousand buds and blossoms. This is one of the sights of the exhibition. Near it is a fine orchid, not in competition, grown by Bayard Thayer in his Lancaster greenhouse. The Bussey Institute contributes one of the largest displays in which the growing crab apple and the original rhodo-tendron, brought from Japan, and the Italian anemones are prominent. J. C. Howard has a goodly array of Easter lilies and azaleas.

In the hall below there are cut flowers and vegetables. Noticeable here is the large vase containing more than a hundred blooms of the new seedling carnation, Mrs. Thomas W. Lawson, grown by Peter Fisher. Such sturdy stems and large, deep tinted blossoms are not often seen, and they were the subject of much admiring comment by the professional gardeners and florists as they were arranging their own collections this morning. James Comely of Lexington displays twenty varieties of camellias and fifty varieties of roses, besides orange blossoms, wisteria, azaleas, etc., and a queer specimen of Cycas, a distorted little Japanese palm said to be 250 years old, and which was brought to this country by Mr. Comely in 1892. It is said to have been growing in this very pot for nearly half a century. Mrs. E. M. Gill exhibits nasturtiums, callas, geraniums, roses, and many other blooms; Mrs. John Jeffries sends many varieties of the snap-dragon; Joseph H. Fay, eight dishes of pansies; David Nevins one hundred magnificent cut roses of the Bride, President Carnot, American Beauty and other kinds and also several bunches of white and purple violets. R. T. McGorum of Natick and W. H.

Elliott of Newtonville are among the others who compete for the rose prizes.

The vegetable display was a fine one, the rhubarb grown by George D. Moore being equal to that in mid-summer. Potatoes, radishes, lettuce, cucumbers, parsley and spinach were also on exhibition. I. E. Coburn and F. J. Kinney each show large mushrooms, and Lapham Brothers sent celery from Florida. M. R. Cushing of Cohasset sent a box of growing strawberries.

GRANGE NOTES

Old Colony Pomona Grange.

At the meeting of the Old Colony Pomona Grange, held at Stoughton, March 19, about 100 members were present. The roll call of officers found all present. After the regular business had been transacted the meeting was turned into the hands of the worthy lecturer. The subject for discussion, "The duty of the Grange to our Public Schools," was then taken up, H. L. Naramore of Sharon was the first speaker, and he was followed by W. E. Beales of Brookton, this ended the morning session, and was followed by a turkey dinner in the banquet hall.

The afternoon session opened with an address of welcome by Mrs. Edna Tilden of Stoughton, response by W. Howard of South Easton. A paper was then read by Harriet P. Cooper, M. D., of Millis, subject, "The New Sense." Violin solo, W. E. Cotter, of Stoughton, which called for an encore; reading by Mrs. Abel F. Stevens, of Wellesley, which also received an encore; solo by Miss Watts of Easton, which received an encore. Abel F. Stevens of Wellesley was the next speaker and his subject was "Paying crops on small farms," and was something of vital interest to every farmer, especially the kind of seeds to plant and the kind of phosphates to use and how to make them. The full report of his address and the formulas will appear in the next issue of the Grange News. It was one of the most interesting meetings held for some time.

Farmers will do well to notice the special offer for March made this week by Hood Farm. A good chance is presented to get a bull that will improve your herd. These bulls should not be allowed to go out of New England.

AN EVIDENCE OF PROSPERITY.

For nearly a quarter of a century, the advertising agent, Mr. F. P. Shumway, has occupied offices in the Ballard Building on Bromfield St. This spring, he has established himself in handsomely appointed offices, in the new Jewellers' Building at the corner of Bromfield and Washington Sts., a move which is a good evidence of prosperity. Mr. Shumway is an advertising agent who enjoys the reputation of having served the interests of his clients so well that through his judicious designing and placing of their advertising, the business of many small concerns has increased to large proportions. Mr. Shumway handles the advertising for many prominent concerns both in this city and elsewhere and entirely to their satisfaction.

Country Real Estate.

The farm formerly owned by J. A. Morrison at Natick, on the corner of Worcester and Oak streets, and consisting of about 90 acres has been sold to Jeremiah Nelson of Boston.

Patrick O'Connell of Boston has purchased the farm on the main road from West Sherborn, owned by John Grimbleson of that place, and containing about ten acres of land, with house, stable, henry, greenhouses, horses, cows, poultry, stock, tools and merchandise.

An eighteen-acre farm in Maple street, Franklin, has been sold by H. E. Sally to Hardy George, on private terms.

The Drake estate, the homestead farm at the corner of Hartford turnpike and Holliston streets, Bellingham, has been sold to a New York man, who buys for a summer home.

Henry L. Houghton of Boston has purchased the Emerson estate in Millis, consisting of a large dwelling-house, cottages and other buildings, and 220 acres of land. This country seat is one of the best in Norfolk County; the buildings are equipped with all conveniences, including an independent electric power and lighting plant. The tax value is \$19,000.

The need of a good Spring medicine is almost universal and Hood's Sarsaparilla exactly meets this need. Be sure to get Hood's.

Everybody Talks of the Klondike.

With the approach of spring and the opening days of navigation and transportation in Alaska, the interest in the wonderful gold mines of the Klondike is increasing. Those of our readers who contemplate the long journey, should put themselves into communication promptly with the Joseph Ladue Gold Mining and Development Company of Yukon. This company, which has been organized by some of the most prominent financiers of New York

THE HIGHEST GRADE IN STRENGTH and QUALITY THE MAPES FERTILIZERS.

HIGH STANDARD FULLY MAINTAINED.
Official Analyses of the Mapes Manures at the CONNECTICUT STATE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION, Prof. S. W. Johnson, Director, the Oldest Station in the Country.

The Mapes Potato Manure.				The Mapes Corn Manure.			
Ammonia.	Phosphoric Acid.	Potash.	Guarantee.	Ammonia.	Phosphoric Acid.	Potash.	Guarantee.
1880.....4.4	10.40	7.70		1880.....3.40	11.50	6.66	
1881.....4.34	11.48	5.0		1881.....3.40	10 to 12	6 to 7	
1882.....4.78	10.04	6.10					
1883.....5.83	12.75	6.30					
1884.....5.18	12.06	6.82					
1885.....5.18	12.06	7.75					
1886.....4.72	11.10	7.30					
1887.....4.67	13.67	7.50					
1888.....4.64	12.82	6.75					
1889.....4.65	11.47	7.17					
1890.....4.74	10.76	7.32					
1891.....4.85	9.69	7.45					
1892.....4.56	9.96	7.45					
1893.....4.85	9.93	7.55					
1894.....4.77	9.33	8.12					
1895.....4.68	10.36	8.60					
1896.....4.64	10.64	7.25					
1897.....4.83	10.11	7.42					
1898.....4.78	10.90	7.31					
Guaranteed by the	Mapes Company 4.50 to 5.8 to 10	6 to 8					

MAPES POTATO MANURE

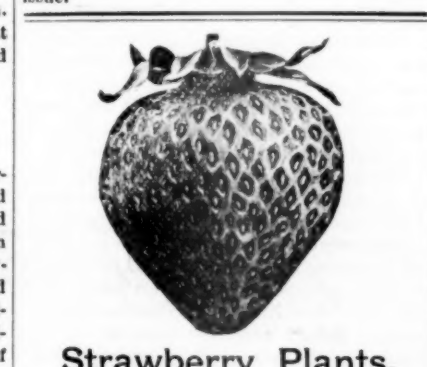
"Under average conditions, and in far the greater number of cases, we do not hesitate to name the Mapes Potato Manure as the best and most profitable fertilizer for potatoes."—[American Agriculturist.]
"Its action approaches certainty, or as near to it as any manure can be expected to do."—[E. S. Carman, Rural New Yorker.]
The American Agriculturist in commenting on these enormous yields with the Mapes Potato Manure, in comparison with other brands in the great Prize Contest, stated: "Apparently it is not so much the QUANTITY, but the POINTS in which the plant food is furnished that govern the yield, provided a reasonable amount is supplied."
"The advantage of the Mapes is that it goes in a straight line right to the spot. We never miss seeing a car load for our orchard."
"We have been using the Mapes Potato Manure for eight years; indeed, we do not care to use anything else for potatoes, and have never been disappointed yet. We do not have scabby potatoes as we used to with stable manure."—[Wm. A. Johnson, Farm Journal.]
"The Practical Farmer on the Mapes Potato Manure in the Potato Prize Contest."
"During the past five years there has scarcely been a recognized authority on potato growing who has not stated as a result of practical experience that a commercial fertilizer like the Mapes Potato Manure excelled stable manure in Economy and in the Yield and Quality of potatoes."
"Mr. Carman states in Rural New Yorker that he has used the Mapes Potato Manure for SEVEN YEARS."

The Mapes Manures at the Agricultural State Experiment Station.
The Mapes Fertilizers have long been recognized as the standard in quality. Mr. Mapes, like his father, Prof. Mapes, before him, has been a leader in developing the manufacture of fertilizers of the highest grade. He believes that the best fertilizers are the cheapest, and demonstrates this by the analysis of his goods, not only for the present year, but for a long series of years. In every case the Mapes fertilizers are found to contain even more actual plant food than is stated in their guarantee, so that they can always be depended upon to give value received. It will be noticed that the difference between the average cost and chemical valuations of these goods is only half as much as with the ordinary fertilizers.—[American Agriculturist.]

Selling Agents for Massachusetts.
Jos. Breck & Sons (Corporation) 47-54 No. Market St., Boston.
Rose Bros., Worcester.
V. E. Moore, Springfield.
J. H. Day, No. Hadley.
E. M. Ferry, Easthampton.
Gilford & Co., Taunton.
Newhall & Colcord, Danvers.
J. A. Briggs & Co., Attleboro.
Boyd Bros., Conway.
W. F. Robinson & Co., Ware.
Robt. H. Chapin, Northampton.
C. E. State & Son, Greenfield.
Riley Maynard, South Deerfield.
Tuttle, Jones & Wetherbee, South Acton.
Hartlett & Dow, Lowell.
J. H. Day, No. Hadley.
S. S. Paine & Bros., New Bedford.
John Shea, 229 Lowell St., Lawrence.
Damon & Gould Co., Fitchburg.
William F. Fletcher, Southwick.
W. A. & H. L. Parsons, Southampton.
Chas. F. Watts, Littleton Common.
T. E. Gould, Warren and West Brookfield, and others.

THE MAPES FORMULA & PERUVIAN GUANO CO. Central Building, 143 Liberty St., New York.

runs its line of steamers to Dawson City, via St. Michaels. It actually owns some of the most valuable placer and quartz mines in the Klondike. The attention of our readers is called to a statement of the company printed in this issue.



Strawberry Plants.

I have a little million of them grown on high land, consequently the roots are well ripened and can be transplanted safely; the price as low as 25c in lowest man can sell for. Send for my Catalogue before placing your order elsewhere.

C. S. PRATT, Reading, Mass.



CURES AND PREVENTS

Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, Influenza, Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Swelling of the Joints, Lumbago, Inflammation, RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, Frostbites, Chilblains, Headache, Toothache, Asthma, DIFFICULT BREATHING.

CURES THE WORST PAINS in from one to twenty minutes. NOT ONE HOUR after reading this advertisement need any one SUFFER WITH PAIN.

Raidway's Ready Relief is a Sure Cure for Every Pain. Sprains, Bruises, Pains in the Back, Chest or Limbs. It was the First and is the Only PAIN REMEDY that instantly stops the most excruciating pains, allays inflammation, and cures onsets whether of the Lungs, Stomach, Bowels or other glands or organs, by one application. WHEN USED EXTERNALLY—A half to a teaspoonful in half a tumbler of water will in a few minutes cure Cramps, Spasms, Sour Stomach, Heartburn, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Sick Headache, Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Colic, Flatulency and all internal pains. Fifty cents per bottle. Sold by Druggists.

RADWAY & CO., NEW YORK.

BE SURE TO GET RADWAY'S.

WANTED.

A reliable man who understands the care and management of young ducks.
Address, Cloverdale Poultry Farm, Box 105, Deerfield, Mass.



Send for circulars and catalogue.

Cream Gluten Meal

IS NOT MADE BY A TRUST.

The Great Milk-Producing Food of the Age.



CENTRE OF THE "HUB"

is the new location of Boston's biggest seed store, devoted to the sale of the best seeds—

ARLINGTON TESTED SEEDS

They are all tried and true. The 1898 Catalogue is valuable and free. Our new address is

W. W. RAWSON & CO., 12-13 Faneuil Hall Square, Boston, Mass.

JAPAN PLUM TREES!

Largest stock of best varieties at lowest rates. Full assortment of fruit trees, all kinds of plants, correspondence solicited from parties who intend planting large orchards. Get our prices before ordering elsewhere. We can save you money. We have over 100 acres of Nurseries and grow as fine stock as can be found in the U. S. Visitors always welcome. References—any Bank or business house in Danville and thousands of pleased customers in every state in the Union. Reliable stock at reasonable prices. Direct from our Nurseries to the Planter. Write today for our new Spring Catalogue and Price List. It is free. Established 1869. Address

The GEO. A. SWEET NURSERY CO., Box 1974, Danville, N. Y.

DARLING'S HIGH GRADE FERTILIZERS AND PURE FINE BONE

Have been proved by progressive farmers to be of the highest nutritive value. They are rich in nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash, derived from the best sources. These elements are combined in proportions adapted to the growth of Corn, Potatoes, root crops, grain, etc.

Darling's Fertilizers are fine and dry. They will start the crops, and what is equally important, carry them through to maturity. Our 1898 catalogue treats the fertilizer question in a concise manner. We send it FREE.

L. B. DARLING FERTILIZER CO., Pawtucket, R. I.

Woodside Poultry and Fruit Farms

BIRDS. and BERRIES.

RUFF and WHITE (Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Leghorns).
FERTILE EGGS WELL PACKED.
\$2. per 15—\$5. per 30.
Grand Stock for Sale—all times.
All Orders promptly filled.

ABEL F. STEVENS & CO., Wellesley, Mass.

KEROSENE SPRAYERS

One of the best Cranberry Bogs for Sale. Located near the ocean and a railroad station, good stream of water through it, easy to drain and can be constructed for about one half what it usually costs. Plenty of vines growing on it in the natural state and produce fruit of better quality than most of the Cape cranberries. For particulars apply to EDMUND HERSEY, Cedar Hedge Farm, Hingham, Mass.

Springer Bros.

Ladies' New and Stylish Tailor-Made Suits, Coats, Capes, Bicycle Suits, Etc. Misses and Children's Garments.

500 WASHINGTON ST.

WANTED A SITUATION

For a farm strong Protestant man, 21 years of age, a young good home is of more value than large wages.
FRANK E. FREETHY,
405 Eighth St., So. Boston, Mass.

Rheumatic Slavery Abolished!

Release at last from the racking tortures of rheumatism, lumbago and neuralgia! POLYNICE OIL comes to you to free the fetters. The real and genuine discovery of a French scientist, and being used in such hospitals as the Bellevue, of New York; Howard, of Philadelphia, and Maryland, of Baltimore! Class this not among the numerous cures—its mission begins and ends with RHEUMATISM, Lumbago, Sciatica, Neuralgia, Dyspepsia and Inflammatory Diseases.